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PATENT

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Patent Examiner Paulos M. Natnael, Art Unit 2614 at (703) 872-9306 on February 18, 2004.


Linda B. Puckett

OFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Fengduo Hu, et al.
Application No.: 09/881,404
Filed: June 14, 2001
Group Art Unit: 2614
Examiner: Paulos M. Natnael
For: **Start/Stop Audio Encoder Apparatus and Method for Synchronizing Digital Audio and Video Signals**
Atty Docket No.: SONY-93

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

February 18, 2004

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

This Amendment responds to an Office Action dated November 18, 2003.

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begin on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 16 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks begin on page 17 of this paper.